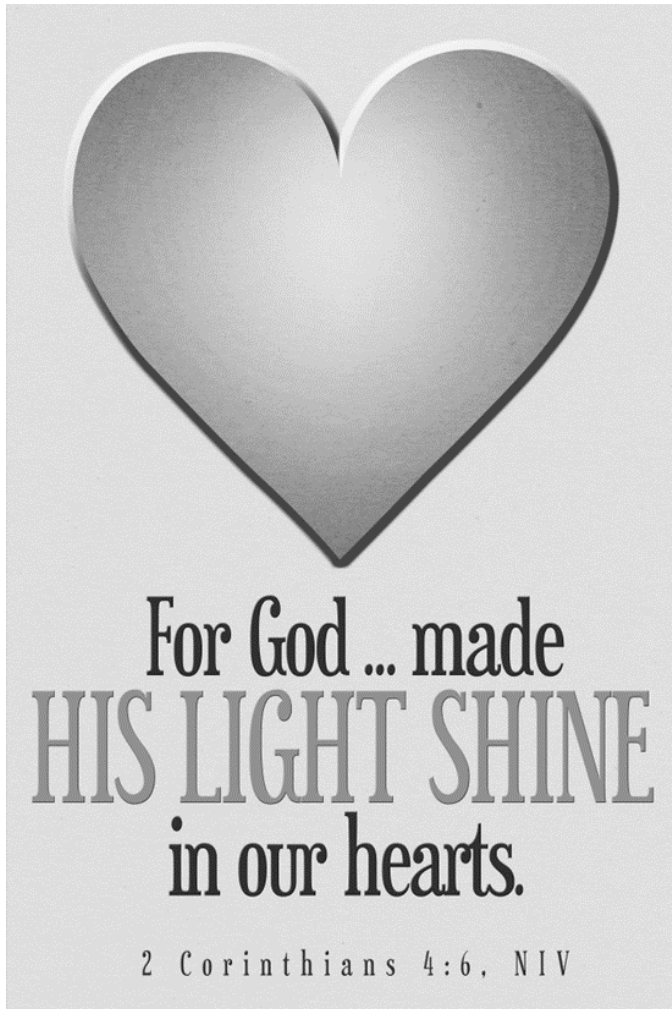




# **The Bethesda Beacon**

*Monthly Newsletter of Bethesda Evangelical Lutheran Church, Carlton MN*  
June-July 2024



## **This Month's Beacon**

Pastor's Beacon Article

Staff & Council

Updates

Financials

Collecting for a Cause//Donation Items

Children, Youth, Family, & Ed.

Baptismal Birthdays

Coffee & Worship Assistant Schedules

Looking Back//Looking Ahead

Calendars



What does it mean to say that  
“All are Welcome”?  
“All are Welcome” – what a  
beautiful sentiment!

I love how much Lutheran (and many other mainline churches) have taken to this statement in the last 10-20 years, especially when it comes to communion and other important ways of participating in a faith community. But “All are Welcome” can become difficult, in practice, can’t it?

Consider one possibility.

Someone joins a church because they like the socializing and the music. When they join, they’re ok with the idea of faith but pretty unsure about the whole thing, and the church welcomes their questions and doubts with open arms (as they rightly should!) But after a while, something changes in their tone and their demeanor, and they begin to openly demean the Christian faith and to quietly talk people out of praying, reading scripture, serving, or worshipping. (This actually happened in my campus ministry group when I was in college).

Would we still say to this person, “You are welcome here”, unequivocally? Or consider this.

A church member begins volunteering with youth. For a while, it goes ok, but then youth start reporting inappropriate comments in small group sessions. Nothing illegal, sure, but their actions cause disruption in the community and break down trust.

Would we still welcome this adult in youth ministry?

To me, the clear answer to both of these questions is that they would be welcome, but their behavior would not be. In order for the community to be safe, mission-focused, and loving, we need to be loving towards the whole community, and that means creating safe, respectful, faithful spaces.

But this is true everywhere, isn’t it? Think about your last workplace or community group. Were there things that someone could do that would create pushback or turmoil?

In any situation, we often have rules, both written and unwritten, that guide behavior.

And sometimes the unwritten rules matter more than the written ones! So what does this mean for a goal of “All are Welcome”? Should we stop saying it altogether? Heck no! As disciples of Jesus, we should strive to be welcoming – to welcome the outcasts, the poor, the others, as Jesus did.

What it does mean is that “All are Welcome” refers to identity, not behavior. No one should be kept from a church community because of who they are, and our unwritten rules need to be adaptable and negotiable for new people and new ways of being.

At the same time, “All are Welcome” also doesn’t mean that anything goes. As Paul encourages us in 1

Corinthians: “All things are lawful, but not all things are beneficial.”

This is true in all facets of life – boundaries create the possibility of real relationships and real community. But those boundaries should never get in the way of us forming relationships with all kinds of people – and what a joy it is when we connect with someone new!

I am praying for you, and rooting for you, in every part of life! Christ’s peace be with you and all those you love this summer. And may all you do be done in Christ’s love!

Pastor Seth Wynands

**Sunday Worship**  
**8:30am**  
*In House and Online*

You can also view the Beacon on our website at [bethesdacarlton.org](http://bethesdacarlton.org)  
If you would like to have a copy emailed to you, please contact the office at [office@bethesdacarlton.org](mailto:office@bethesdacarlton.org)

**IFCC Service Reminder**

Bethesda holds a service at Interfaith Care Center the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month in the IFCC Community Room at 2:30 p.m. *All are welcome to join!*

**Bethesda Staff**

Seth Wynands, Pastor

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Cathy Dale, Accompanist

Anna Bong, Custodian

Ronay Frank, Custodian

**Current Members of Bethesda**

**Church Council**

Roxane Schmitz .....President

Lynn Beatty ..... Vice President

Jen Goad ..... Secretary

Jeannette Korpela ..... Treasurer

Diana Davis

Jason Goad

JoAnn Gustafson

Debby Johnson

Linda Newlon

If you have items that you wish to be addressed by council, contact a member of the Executive Committee at:

[bethesdalutherancouncil@gmail.com](mailto:bethesdalutherancouncil@gmail.com)

Next Council Meeting will be held June 18<sup>th</sup>  
at 5:30 p.m.

<b>Financial Update</b>			
Year to date as of 03/31/2024			
	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Over/(Under) Budget</b>
Envelope giving	46011.00	47100.00	(1089.00)
Non-pledged income	7208.00	1200.04	6007.96
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>53219.00</b>	<b>48300.04</b>	<b>4918.96</b>
Salaries/Compensation	36123.93	38451.70	(2327.77)
General Office Expenses	2458.14	3854.00	(1395.86)
Utilities	4384.51	4901.64	(517.13)
Other Expenses	916.85	896.64	(20.21)
Benevolence Expenses	365.48	366.68	(1.20)
Evangelism Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00
Property Expenses	834.51	1210.00	(375.49)
Social Ministry	108.00	108.32	(0.32)
Worship Expenses	202.99	533.32	(330.33)
CYFM Expenses	1129.92	1598.32	(468.40)
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>46515.33</b>	<b>51920.62</b>	<b>(5405.29)</b>
<b>Net operating income</b>	<b>6703.67</b>	<b>(3620.58)</b>	<b>10324.25</b>
Non-pledged income includes Loose offering, Special Services, Meatball supper, Sunday School, Interest Income, etc. Memorial money is not included in any of the figures above.			

Updates

*Memorials & Donations*

The Memorial Committee has a new fund designation set up titled “Basement Project” as the basement is in need of waterproofing. If you’d like to designate your donation to this fund, please make a note on your contribution for “Basement Project”.

*Thank you*

*Highway Cleanup Crew*

Thank you so much to everyone who took the time to clean up Bethesda’s stretch of highway again this year!

*Beacon Update*

The Beacon will continue to be printed, mailed, and posted every month but will now accommodate more information, such as additional committee updates and happenings for the upcoming month and a half or so. To make this happen the deadline to get information to the office has been moved to the 22<sup>nd</sup> of each month.

Thank you!

**Collecting for a Cause**

Brown Paper Bags | New Greeting Cards | Pop Tops

**Ditty Bags**

Bar soap in original wrapping (no ivory), wash cloths, toothbrushes, medium or large toothpaste, small or medium-sized notebooks, razors, sturdy combs, travel-sized shampoo/conditioner/lotions, sewing kits...

Boxes for above items located in Narthex area.

**Hygiene products for the Damiano Center**

Shampoo, toothpaste, and personal care products as well as larger backpacks and suitcases with wheels. Please bring gently used items.

**Making Mats for the Homeless:**

Clean plastic shopping bags. Mat Makers use them to create 6’ x 3’ sleeping mats for those in need. Drop plastic bags off in small coat closet in the Narthex.

**Baby Kits:**

Flannel sheets, pillowcases, or material, sleepers, onesies, baby blankets, receiving blankets, and socks (sizes 0-2y)

**School supplies needed**

**\*Sewers Needed\***

Consider hemming precut diaper squares, and onesies.

Donations can be dropped off in the Narthex of the church. Thank you!



Our deepest sympathy & prayers to the families of Donald Magnuson, Eleanore Ehmann & Maurice Bandle. God gives us hope and strength in the promise of the resurrection in Christ.

**Children, Youth, Family, & Ed.**

**June 2024 J.A.M./Message**

June 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Jesus and Me [J.A.M]
June 9 <sup>th</sup>	NO Message with Pastor Seth
June 16 <sup>th</sup>	Jesus and Me [J.A.M]
June 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Message with Pastor Seth
June 30 <sup>th</sup>	NO Jesus and Me [J.A.M]

**July 2024 J.A.M./Message**

July 7 <sup>th</sup>	No Jesus and Me [J.A.M]
July 14 <sup>th</sup>	No Message with Pastor Seth - Outdoor Service
July 21 <sup>st</sup>	No Jesus and Me [J.A.M] Joint Service
July 28 <sup>th</sup>	No Message with Pastor Polka Service

**Beacon Information – June**

J.A.M./message schedule remains the same. J.A.M. the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month and the message on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday’s.

Book/Article study is still held on the last Tuesday of the month at 5:30. All are welcome.

The Grow in Faith/Stewardship last class was Wednesday, May 1<sup>st</sup> with 3 kids attending. All 3 kids were given their \$20.00 to complete their 1<sup>st</sup> Stewardship challenge. Tatiana Hackensmith donated toys to Wrenshall’s Latchkey,

Jackson Soukkala made May Day baskets for seniors and Ailie Gustafson made encouragement bracelets to pass out to the congregation. They were all given their next \$100.00 to do another Stewardship challenge. More to follow!

The kids going to the retreat in New Orleans in July will be hosting/serving coffee in June for a fundraiser.

There will be NO CYFED meeting in June 2024.

The next CYFED meeting will be held on **TUESDAY, JULY 2, 2024, AT 5:30 PM**

All are welcome to join us. We are always looking for ideas to get our youth involved. Thank you from the CYFED Committee Pastor Seth, Wendy Mitchell, Linda Newlon, Diana Davis, and JoAnn Gustafson. If you have questions/concerns/ideas please feel free to contact a committee member.

We had 11 youth and adults deliver Easter poems with light up butterflies to 77 residents at IFCC before the Easter Vigil on March 30th. Thank you to Joel, Annabelle, Lauren, Jackson, Sharon, Chase, Cary, Nixon, Jen, Mark, Ailie and JoAnn.

The Easter Vigil took place on Saturday, March 30th from 6-8 PM. The kids filled Easter eggs, made donut toms, made stained glass, had a meal of taco's & had a bonfire, played a Left/Right game outside, had a prayer send off. We had 3 cars with 9 youth serving 11 young families



### **Celebrating June & July Baptismal Birthdays**

Lynn Beatty, Madison

Goodwin, JoAnn Gustafson,

Paige Johnson, Angela Martini, Karen Murphy, Edward Leiste, George Saarela, Mary Bryant, Brad Bunge, Marvin Durkee, Harper McKeon, Athena Pearce-Ante, Christie Bunge, Sawyer Thorman, Devin Cook, Luke Konietzko, Cindy Mankowski, Amanda Radtke, Rusty Buscko, Katelyn Konietzko, Waylon Lekander, Anna Bong, Ruthann Goad, Sandy Moench, Nicholas Colich, Samuel Goodwin, Austin Graves Quinten Krueger, Tristan Krueger, Lindsay Pantsar, Dave Hendrickson, Amy Lindgren, Brad Matlack, Rachel Rudolph, Aaron Buller, Natalie Buscko, Susan Coady, Terry Coady, Stephanie Grover, Sheila Hopp, Tori Anderson & Richard Nygren Taylor Anderson, Stacy Colich, Macy Hanson, Tyler Thompson, Doug Finke, Landon Hammitt, John Stradtman, Robert Chapman Sell, Tricia Hackensmith, Gracie Meagher, Andrea Kiehl, Chase Ableiter, Andrew Olesen,

Keanna Simula, Chaise Jokinen, Justin Jokinen, Teresa Olson Colich, Pierce Davis, Jessica Krone, Kevin Frederick, Robert Postal, Patricia Nygren, Kevin Olesen, Charlie Wolter, Harold Ankrum, Johnny Moen, Amaija Halli, Chris Marciniak, Jason Goodwin, Janelle Bell, Amy Olesen, Bryan Bunge, Carrie Buller, Julieauna Johnson, Mark Matlack, Attlei Sheldon, Peter Allen, Barb Saarela, Dawn Saarela.



### **June Coffee Serving Schedule**

**6/2** Cary's Group  
**6/9** Linda's Group  
**6/16** Deb's Group  
**6/23** Renae's Group  
**6/30** Lori's Group

### **June Worship Assistants**

If you are unable to be here for the date that you are scheduled, please try to find a replacement. Thank you!

### **Greeters**

**6/2** Sharon Bragge & Debby Johnson  
**6/9** JoAnn Gustafson & Ailie  
**6/16** Linda Newlon & Mary Saarela  
**6/23** Rod & Deb Davis  
**6/30** Jason and Jen Goad

### **Ushers**

**6/2** Sharon Bragge & Debby Johnson  
**6/9** Terry and Sue Coady  
**6/16** Cheryl Ankrum & Debby Johnson  
**6/23** Craig & Roxane Schmitz  
**6/30** Pat Durkee & Lynn Beatty

### **Lector**

**6/2** Wendy Mitchell  
**6/9** Lynn Beatty  
**6/16** Linda Newlon  
**6/23** Roxane Schmitz  
**6/30** Pat Durkee

### **Acolyte**

**6/2** Anna  
**6/9** Ailie  
**6/16** Mason  
**6/23** Anna  
**6/30** Mason

### **Communion Assistants**

**6/2** Chris & Wendy Mitchell  
**6/9** JoAnn Gustafson & Ailie  
**6/16** Jason & Jen Goad  
**6/23** Pat Durkee & Deb Davis  
**6/30** Sharon Bragge & Linda Newlon

### **Counters**

**6/2** Chris Mitchell & Diana Davis  
**6/9** Lynn Beatty & JoAnn Gustafson  
**6/16** Mary Saarela & Gladys Sievert  
**6/23** Linda Newlon & Lori Bunge  
**6/30** Lynn Beatty & Bev Mangan



## **July Coffee Serving Schedule**

- 7/7 Gladys' Group
- 7/14 Jeannette's Group
- 7/21 Ginny's Group
- 7/28 Pat's Group

## **July Worship Assistants**

If you are unable to be here for the date that you are scheduled, please try to find a replacement. Thank you!

### **Greeters**

- 7/7 Sharon Bragge & Jimmy Bragge
- 7/14 Park Service
- 7/21 Ginny Korte-Castle & Lori Bunge
- 7/28 Rod & Deb Davis

### **Ushers**

- 7/7 Ryan Swanson & Lynn Beatty
- 7/14 Park Service
- 7/21 JoAnn & Ailie Gustafson
- 7/28 Craig & Roxane Schmitz

### **Lector**

- 7/7 Lynn Beatty
- 7/14 Pat Durkee (Park Service)
- 7/21 Cheryl Ankrum
- 7/28 Diana Davis

## **Acolyte**

- 7/7 Anna
- 7/14 Ailie
- 7/21 Mason
- 7/28 Anna

## **Communion Assistants**

- 7/7 Sharon Bragge & Debby Johnson
- 7/14 Linda Newlon & Lynn Beatty
- 7/21 Jason & Jen Goad
- 7/28 Cheryl Ankrum & Debby Johnson

## **Counters**

- 7/7 Chris Mitchell & Diana Davis
- 7/14 Lynn Beatty & Mary Saarela
- 7/21 Gladys Sievert & Lynn Beatty
- 7/28 Lori Bunge & Bev Mangan



**God's Work, Our Hands**  
Sunday September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024





**RUBY'S  
PANTRY—  
HELP  
WANTED!!**

Ruby's pantry is a non-profit food ministry for anybody who eats!! For \$25.00 this buying coop will give you about \$150 worth of groceries. There are **NO INCOME REQUIREMENTS.**

I volunteer at the Peace In Christ Lutheran Church in Hermantown (5007 Maple Grove Road) on the second Tuesday of each month to help package and distribute food. But--they **REALLY NEED HELP**—especially when school's out and families are trying to stretch that food dollar!!! Sorting is from 3-5, loading cars from 5-6:30 Cloquet's program was cancelled--this one is struggling. If you can help—the next date is June 11. It's a great cause, and you can purchase your own share at the same time. More info? Ride share? Ginny Korte-Castle 218-384-3896

**MEATBALL SUPPER UPDATE**

The Meatball Supper was held on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> and was an amazing success. Our Meatball Supper has a reputation of its own and people look forward to it every year.

**Due to the generosity of our congregation, we made a profit of \$4,530!**

We had donations from members for so many things – here are just a few:

(1) paid for the advertising in the Pine Knot, (2) donated To Go Containers, (3) purchased ingredients, made and donated Fruit Soup (4) purchased ingredients, made and donated bread (5) made and donated 15 desserts (6) over \$500 cash donated for ingredients and the list goes on! We have a church family who steps up when help is needed!

**We are so Blessed!!**

# June 2024

						1  Fellowship Hall in Use
2  <b>8:30a</b> Worship <b>9:45a</b> Coffee/ Fellowship <b>10:30a</b> Worship @ River's Edge	3	4  <b>9a</b> Making Mats for the Homeless  <b>6p</b> Serenity Seekers	5	6  <b>1p</b> Jam Group	7  <b>11a</b> Bible Study	8
9  <b>9:30a</b> Joint Service @ River's Edge <b>10:45a</b> Coffee/ Fellowship <b>2:30p</b> Interfaith Service	10	11  <b>9a</b> Making Mats for the Homeless  <b>6p</b> Serenity Seekers	12	13	14  <b>11a</b> Bible Study	15
16 <b>8:30a</b> Worship <b>9:45a</b> Coffee/ Fellowship <b>10:30a</b> Worship @ River's Edge  	17	18  <b>9a</b> Making Mats for the Homeless <b>4:30p</b> Worship Committee Mtg. <b>5:30p</b> Council Mtg. <b>6p</b> Serenity Seekers	19	20  <b>1p</b> Jam Group  <b>5:30p</b> Ladies of Kaleva Mtg.	21  <b>11a</b> Bible Study	22  <u><i>New Beacon Deadline</i></u>
23 <b>8:30a</b> Worship – Baptismal Birthdays <b>9:45a</b> Coffee/ Fellowship <b>10:30a</b> Worship @ River's Edge	24	25  <b>9a</b> Making Mats for the Homeless  <b>6p</b> Serenity Seekers	26	27	28  <b>11a</b> Bible Study	29  <b>9a.m.-2p.m.</b> Fellowship Hall In Use- Ableiter Family
30 <b>8:30a</b> Worship <b>9:45a</b> Coffee/ Fellowship <b>10:30a</b> Worship @ River's Edge						

# July 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2 <b>9a</b> Making Mats for the Homeless <b>5:30p</b> CYFed. Meeting <b>6p</b> Serenity Seekers	3	4  Church Closed Happy 4 <sup>th</sup> of July!	5 <b>11a</b> Bible Study	6
7 <b>8:30a</b> Worship <b>9:45a</b> Coffee/ Fellowship <b>10:30a</b> Worship @ River's Edge	8	9 <b>9a</b> Making Mats for the Homeless <b>6p</b> Serenity Seekers	10	11	12 <b>11a</b> Bible Study	13
14 ELCA Youth Gathering~ New Orleans <b>9:30a</b> Joint Outdoor Worship @ Carlton Pavillion <b>10:45a</b> Coffee Hour <b>2:30p</b> Interfaith Service	15 ELCA Youth Gathering~ New Orleans	16 ELCA Youth Gathering~ New Orleans  <b>9a</b> Making Mats for the Homeless <b>6p</b> Serenity Seekers	17 ELCA Youth Gathering~ New Orleans	18 ELCA Youth Gathering~ New Orleans  <b>1p</b> Jam Group <b>5:30p</b> Ladies of Kaleva	19 ELCA Youth Gathering~ New Orleans  <b>11a</b> Bible Study	20 ELCA Youth Gathering~ New Orleans
21 ELCA Youth Gathering~ New Orleans <b>9:30a</b> Joint Service @ Bethesda <b>10:45a</b> Coffee/ Fellowship	22 <b>Beacon Deadline</b>	23 <b>9a</b> Making Mats for the Homeless <b>6p</b> Serenity Seekers	24	25	26 <b>11a</b> Bible Study	27 8a.m.-11a.m. Pancake Breakfast
28 <b>8:30a</b> Polka Worship Service @ Bethesda <b>9:45a</b> Coffee/ Fellowship <b>10:30a</b> Worship @ River's Edge	29	30 <b>9a</b> Making Mats for the Homeless <b>6p</b> Serenity Seekers	31			

Bethesda Lutheran Church  
204 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
P.O. Box 210  
Carlton, MN 55718

Sunday Worship

**9:00am**

*In House*

*And on Facebook*

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*on our website at*

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